

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

APRIL 10, 2007

The term “biosolids” refers to sewage sludge that has been treated and tested. Ultimately biosolids are placed in a landfill or utilized as a soil amendment in agriculture in conformance with Federal, State, and local laws. Existing law requires the State Water Resources Control Board or the regional boards to prescribe general waste discharge requirements for land application of sludge.

AB 1207 (Smyth), as introduced on February 23, 2007, would: 1) require the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) to develop regulations for the land application of biosolids by July 1, 2009; 2) require the standards to be uniform statewide; 3) prohibit a local governmental entity from enacting any ordinance or regulation that is contrary or inconsistent to the CIWMB’s regulations on the land application of biosolids; and 4) void any existing or future local ordinance or regulation that contradicts the CIWMB’s regulations regarding the composting and disposal of biosolids. This ill-conceived legislation is a draconian reaction to a referendum in one county, a referendum that is currently the subject of litigation and may ultimately be over-turned by the courts.

AB1207 would undermine local governments’ local land use authority regarding the land application of biosolids. The proposal envisions a “one-size-fits-all” regulatory solution that ignores community concerns. The State should not be involved in making land use decisions on behalf of local jurisdictions, as it has already done relative to group homes, with disastrous consequences for neighborhoods.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA _____

BURKE _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

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I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Oppose AB 1207 (Smyth); and
2. Send a five-signature letter to the Governor, Assembly Speaker, Senate President Pro Tempore, and the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation expressing the Board's opposition to this bill.

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MDA:pno